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November 6, 1903 1954

Hongkong.—During the period from the 16th to the 29th of August there were registered in Hongkong 7 cases of plague (with 6 deaths).

South Africa.—During the week from the 6th to the 12th of September there were registered 1 case of plague in Port Elizabeth and 1 case in East London.

Plague and cholera.

British India.—In Calcutta, during the week ended September 5, 18 persons died of plague and 8 persons died of cholera.

Cholera.

Turkey.—According to Bulletin No. 28, of September 28, there have been registered in Syria since the date of the last bulletin 351 cases of cholera (with 303 deaths), of which there occurred—In Damascus, 138 cases (112 deaths); Aleppo, 53 cases (50 deaths); Hazaz, 36 cases (17 deaths); Urfa, 33 cases (25 deaths); Zebdani, 24 cases (27 deaths).

Plague.

Egypt.—During the period from the 3d to the 10th of October, inclusive, there were registered in Alexandria 7 cases of plague (and 2 deaths).

Philippines.—During the month of August there were registered

12 cases of plague (and 8 deaths).

Mauritius.—During the period from the 7th of August to the 3d of September 78 cases of plague occurred on the island (with 60 deaths).

British South Africa.—During the week ended September 19, 1 plague patient died in the hospital at Port Elizabeth. Plague rats continue to be found in the docks at East London.

Brazil.—During the two weeks from the 7th to the 20th of September there were registered in Rio de Janeiro 27 fresh cases of plague (and 23 deaths). The number of plague patients treated in the hospital in the first week amounted to 53, in the second week to 56.

Chile.—During the month of August there occurred in Iquique 61 cases of plague (with 30 deaths). In Valparaiso there were registered in the period from August 13 to the 2d of September 3 cases of plague (and 1 death).

Plague and cholera.

British India.—In Calcutta during the week ended September 12, 13 persons died of plague and 4 persons died of cholera.

Cholera.

Turkey.—According to Bulletin No. 29, of October 5, a further 392 cases of cholera have occurred in Syria (with 332 deaths).

Death rate of Berlin.

The death rate of Berlin for the week ended October 10 was somewhat higher than in the two preceding weeks, amounting, calculated on the year, to 14.4 per thousand of the inhabitants, thus being, however, considerably lower than the rate for the corresponding week of last year, in which it amounted to 15.7 per thousand.

1955 November 6, 1903

The population of Berlin proper on the 1st of January, 1903, was 1,926,632. This does not, however, include the population of the large suburban cities of Charlottenburg, Schöneberg, Wilmersdorf, etc., which are in reality part of the city, inasmuch as the whole space is solidly built, so that it is impossible to notice from the character of the buildings when one passes from Berlin into either of these suburbs. Including the population of these suburban districts, which belong properly to the city, the population of Berlin is about 2,468,000.

Of the large German towns only 7 showed somewhat more favorable figures than Berlin, viz, Frankfurt-am-Main, Cassel, Hanover, Elberfeld, Bremen, Schöneberg, with 9.7, and Charlottenburg, with 9 per The following cities, among others, had a considerably higher death rate than Berlin, namely, Hamburg, Dresden, Stuttgart, Karlsruhe, Brunswick, Munich, Nuremberg, Strassburg, Cologne, Leipzig, Breslau, as well as London, Paris, and Vienna. Since the foregoing week the increase in the number of deaths was almost exclusively confined to the children in the first year of life, hardly any difference being noticeable in the higher-age classes. The death rate among infants rose to 4.7 per year and mille, which rate, however, was only half that of Munich and Nuremberg. Among the causes of death acute intestinal diseases predominated, claiming 79 victims; 24 infants succumbed to cholerine; acute diseases of the respiratory organs caused 38 deaths; phthisis pulmonalis claimed 65 victims, and 28 persons died of cancer. There were also registered 7 deaths from scarlet fever, 5 deaths from measles, 4 deaths from diphtheria, and 4 deaths from typhus. Four persons died by violence.

Mortality and its causes in German cities for the last twenty-five years.

Consul-General Guenther reports, October 13, 1903, from Frankfort on the Main as follows:

The latest volume of the statistics of the German Empire contains a report with reference to the causes of mortality in German cities of more than 15,000 inhabitants for the period from 1877 to 1901.

These cities had a population of 7.3 millions in 1877 and 17.5 millions in 1891.

The total mortality per year during the five years from 1877 to 1881 for every 100,000 inhabitants was 2,673 against 2,046 in the five years from 1897 to 1901.

This great decrease of mortality is a result of progress in many respects. Medicine, legislation and government, sewerage, waterworks, sprinkling of streets, removal of garbage, more light and air through wider streets and parks, public bathing establishments, and playgrounds for children have improved the sanitary conditions in general, while the progress in medicine and chemistry, the antiseptic and aseptic treatment of wounds, the prevention of the spread of infectious and contagious diseases through disinfection, the serum of Behring, and the larger number of physicians and nurses in hospitals and sanatoriums have increased the chances of recovery and given better protection against infection.

The more stringent laws for the protection and health of working people and the inspection of nutriments have also contributed to the general result.

The steady decrease in the number of suicides is also noteworthy.